

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 07792 101849Z
ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5265

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STADIS//////////

FOR EUR/WE ONLY: ATTENTION ARTHUR HUGHES

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: FT, PDIP
SUBJECT: SUGGESTED REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR TODMAN TO
EMBASSY STAFF

1. QUOTE I WOULD LIKE FIRST TO SAY HOW HAPPY I AM TO BE
HERE. MY FAMILY AND I HAVE BEEN IN SPAIN BEFORE,
AND WE HAVE ALL DEVELOPED A GREAT ADMIRATION FOR ITS
INCOMPARABLE CULTURAL RICHES AND ENDLESS DIVERSITY.

2. AS YOU KNOW, UNTIL A FEW DAYS AGO I WAS ASSISTANT
SECRETARY FOR LATIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS, AND IT IS INDEED
A PLEASURE AND A PRIVILEGE TO BE NAMED AMBASSADOR TO
THE NATION WHICH IS THE LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL PARENT
OF THAT IMMENSE REGION.

3. IT IS PARTICULARLY GRATIFYING FOR ME TO COME TO
SPAIN AT A TIME WHEN THIS GREAT NATION IS MOVING RAPIDLY
AND DECISIVELY TOWARD THE CONSOLIDATION OF DEMOCRACY,
TOWARD A RESTRUCTURING OF ITS INSTITUTIONS, AND TOWARD
TAKING AN INCREASINGLY ACTIVE ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS.

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4. OBVIOUSLY, I HAVE MUCH TO LEARN, AND I LOOK TO
ALL OF YOU FOR HELP IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE FUNCTIONING
OF THIS MISSION, AND IN PROVIDING ME WITH THE INSIGHTS
I WILL NEED IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND SPAIN -- NOT ONLY
ITS POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROCESSES AND PROBLEMS BUT
ALSO ITS HUMAN SIDE.

5. MOST OF MY WORK WILL BE DONE HERE IN MADRID, BUT, JUST AS WE AMERICANS SAY THAT WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK ARE NOT THE UNITED STATES, I AM SURE MADRID IS NOT SPAIN SO I PLAN TO TRAVEL EXTENSIVELY IN AN EFFORT TO ABSORB THE GREAT DIVERSITY OF SPAIN.

6. THE LONG HISTORY OF CLOSE AND PRODUCTIVE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND THE MORE THAN FIFTEEN MILLION AMERICANS OF SPANISH AND SPANISH-AMERICAN ORIGIN SHOULD MAKE MY MISSION AN EASY ONE. THAT IT WILL BE CHALLENGING AND STIMULATING, I HAVE NEVER DOUBTED. I ALSO EXPECT IT TO BE AN ENJOYABLE EXPERIENCE BOTH FOR MY FAMILY AND FOR ME.

7. AS THE PRESIDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE, I AM THE SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE OF ALL ELEMENTS OF THE MISSION AND CHARGED WITH THE DIRECTION AND COORDINATION OF ALL ITS ACTIVITIES. I INTEND TO CARRY OUT THAT RESPONSIBILITY FULLY. AT THE SAME TIME, I REGARD A DIPLOMATIC MISSION AS A FAMILY, AND I INTEND TO DO MY UTMOST TO MAKE THIS FAMILY A HAPPY AS WELL AS A CREATIVE ONE. I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING AND GETTING TO KNOW EACH OF YOU SOON. UNQUOTE
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